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EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR.
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GENERAL NEWS.

The New York Post of last evening says:—The war news this morning, though variously construed by the speculators in the street, had no unfavorable effect on Government securities. On the contrary our advanced prices of Saturday were more than sustained, and a further rise occurred in 6 per cts. of 1861 and 7.30 Treasury bonds. The State stocks and Pacific Mail were also steady at Saturday's advance.

A Mr. Helper, brother of the Helper who wrote the "Impending Crisis," has addressed a letter to Gov. Stanly, of North Carolina, objecting to his action with regard to the negro schools, and concluding with an intimation that he (H.) would leave the State, if the course was persisted in. Whereupon, Gov. S. issued an order directing the said Helper to leave the State forthwith.

A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says that the order of Gov. Stanly prohibiting the colored schools at Newbern, will be countermanded. Gov. S., it is stated, has issued orders for the return of several fugitive slaves to their owners, since his arrival at Newbern. These slaves had been staying within the lines of the army for several weeks.

The U. S. Secretary of the Treasury reports that the public debt, on the 29th ult., was four hundred and ninety-one million four hundred and forty-five thousand nine hundred and eighty-four dollars.

The bill "to liberate the slaves of rebels engaged in the rebellion," recently rejected by the U. S. House of Representatives, has been reconsidered, and recommitted.

A letter in the N. Y. Times says that the Confederate generals commanding in the engagement before Richmond, on Saturday, were Longstreet, Pryor, Hill, Cobb, Huger, and others.

Capt. Michael Berry, formerly the captain of the steamer Columbia, died in Brooklyn yesterday. Captain Berry was the first man who sailed into Charleston with the Palmetto flag, and was imprisoned at Warren several months, for alleged secession tendencies. He was released a few weeks since.

Bishop Whittingham, of Maryland, has made a very pressing appeal to the Bible and Common Prayer Book Society for a supply of religious publications, for the New York regiments now located within the boundaries of his diocese.

Over 2,000,000 of self-sealing stamped newspaper wrappers have been sold since their introduction at post offices, exclusive of large quantities of unstamped wrappers by the general trade.

The tax on cotton, in the tax bill, has been fixed by the Senate at $\frac{1}{2}$ ct. per pound.

In Washington, it is said that the State Department "will make a satisfactory arrangement with the Minister of the Netherlands, in reference to the money seized under the Dutch flag at New Orleans, by Gen. Butler."

The N. Y. Tribune says, in reference to the action of Gov. Stanly, "that the Rev. Dr. Tyng and Stephen Caldwell, representing the Freedmen's Association of New York and Philadelphia, were yesterday informed by Secretary Stanton that he had given Gov. Stanly no instructions whatever about the schools for colored people in North Carolina. He utterly repudiated the act, and said that he would not for a moment remain in an Administration that would sanction it."

The Cabinet is now engaged in forming a commission of civilians, with a civil governor as its head, for the express purpose of transferring the administration of New Orleans into their hands. The plan agreed upon by the Cabinet will be the same as that already adopted for the State of North Carolina. General Butler will still preserve the military command of the city, and direct the operations of the war.

A total eclipse of the moon, visible throughout the United States, occurs on the night of Wednesday, the 11th inst. The duration of the whole eclipse will be three hours and seventeen minutes, and during sixty-two minutes the moon will be wholly immersed in the shadow of the earth. The eclipse will begin at 11:58 P. M., and end at 3.15 A. M.

The postoffice at Occoquan, Prince William county, Virginia, is re-established, as special, to be regularly supplied from Alexandria, Va., John Underwood is appointed postmaster, vice L. A. Lynn, who abandoned.

By the order assigning to Gen. McClellan the command of all troops south of the Rappahannock, it is clear that the army under Gen. McDowell is to operate as circumstances may require to assail any force that may menace Washington. The Manassas road, which was so long occupied as a strategic point by the Confederates, is now substantially held for the same purpose by the Federal army. By means of that road forces may be rapidly sent in the valley of Virginia, and vice versa.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, commenced yesterday. In relation to the edict of non-intercourse passed by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in 1860, the Grand Master suggested the appointment of a commissioner to open a correspondence with that Lodge, in order to endeavor to heal all difficulties.

The June Term of the Equity Court of Prince George's County, Md., is now in session, Judge Brent presiding. The long litigated case of Clagett, guardian of Scott, vs. Scott, was taken up on Monday, and will occupy the Court for several days.

Major Wilder Dwight, of the Second Massachusetts, who was taken prisoner in Banks's retreat, was held in Winchester a short time, then released on parole, and given the liberty of the town. He says he was well treated, and with great respect even by officers and men, and so he says were all the other Union prisoners that he saw or heard of. He says the enemy released all the Union surgeons immediately—on the sole condition that they should report at Washington and use their influence to have all surgeons on both sides regarded as neutral.

Dunham Kellogg & Ives of Hartford, have a large trout factory in operation in Glastenbury, Conn., where trout are hatched by artificial means. The number now in the pond is between 40,000 and 50,000 and rapidly increasing. When the stock reaches the number of half a million, they estimate a yield of 50,000 pounds per annum.

The steamer Elm City arrived at Washington, yesterday morning early, with a number of wounded soldiers from battle before Richmond, but who were not removed until afternoon, on account of the rain. There are four hundred and fifty-one in all, most of whom were wounded in the battle on Saturday. They are in charge of Dr. Griscom, of New York, of the Sanitary Commission.

One of the tobacco houses belonging to Wm. Worthington, in Aquasco district, Md., filled with tobacco, was destroyed by fire on Thursday night last. The tobacco from all the other houses had been removed to this house for packing, and M. W. lost all his crop, valued at some \$3,000. It was the work of an incendiary.

The Nashville Despatch states that on Saturday last one of the soldiers, or rather a teamster, attached to one of the Ohio regiments, and who has been confined at the hospital for a few days with measles, was discovered to be a woman. She hails from the vicinity of Gallipolis, Ohio, and first joined the regular army, when her sex was discovered, and she was rejected. She was then employed as a house servant, and then was engaged as a teamster to an Ohio regiment. She is represented as about eighteen years old, and made rather a handsome boy.

At the London International Exhibition, in the American department, there are sixty-four American exhibitors mentioned in the first edition of the official catalogue—and there are several who are not mentioned—yet of them perhaps not six are present or represented.

The common council of Brooklyn, New York, have adopted an ordinance prohibiting the storage within the city limits of any crude petroleum or earth oil, except twenty barrels in an open shed for the purpose of manufacture.

There was a run upon the Girard Bank, in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, but the notes were promptly exchanged for the U. S. treasury notes, or notes of other banks.